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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/733,394	12/12/2003	Kazuyuki Seki	246457US2	8511
22850 7590 01/17/2008 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER NEGRON, WANDA M	
			ART UNIT 2622	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 01/17/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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oblonpat@oblon.com
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**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/733,394

Applicant(s)

SEKI, KAZUYUKI

Examiner

Wanda M. Negrón

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed on 12/05/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,7,9,8,5,6,10,2,3,11,16,19-24,17,18, and 12-15 renumbered consecutively as 1-24.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☒ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, as requested by Applicant in a communication filed on December 05, 2007:

Regarding **claims 1, 9 and 10**, independent claim 1 teaches a digital camera apparatus, comprising an image inputting device configured to capture an image to be photographed, the image inputting device including a shutter release button having two positions for a first release and a second release; an image processing device configured to process said image captured by said image inputting device; ***a recognizing device configured to automatically recognize a printed code included in said processed image and output a result of the recognition of the printed code in response to the first release, and configured to determine the image captured by the image inputting device and record the determined image and the printed code recognized by the first release in response to the second release***; a displaying device configured to display the result of the recognition of the printed code outputted from said recognizing device; and a recording device configured to record the determined image captured by the image inputting device and data of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device, which is neither taught or an obvious variation of the prior art.

Regarding **claims 2, 6 and 7**, independent claim 2 teaches a digital camera apparatus, comprising **a guide displaying device configured to display a guide for recognizing a printed code**; an image inputting device configured to capture an image to be photographed; an image processing device configured to process said image captured by said image inputting device; **a recognizing device configured to automatically recognize the printed code included in said processed image by matching the printed code with the guide**; a displaying device configured to display a result of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; a recording device configured to record data of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; and a matching device configured to match the printed code with the guide, which is neither taught or an obvious variation of the prior art.

Regarding **claims 3 and 5**, independent claim 3 teaches a digital camera apparatus, an image inputting device configured to capture an image to be photographed; an image processing device configured to process said image captured by said image inputting device; **a code setting device configured to set a kind of a printed code included in the image to be automatically recognized; a resolution setting device configured to set a resolution of said image captured by the image inputting device; a guide displaying device configured to display a guide for recognizing the printed code in accordance with a content on the kind of printed code to be automatically recognized set by said code setting device; a**

recognizing device configured to automatically recognize the printed code included in said image according to the guide corresponding to the content set by said code setting device and to the resolution of said image set by said resolution setting device; a displaying device configured to display a result of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; and a recording device configured to record data of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device, which is neither taught or an obvious variation of the prior art.

Regarding **claim 4**, the relevant prior art fails to disclose or reasonably suggest a digital camera apparatus, comprising an image inputting device configured to capture an image to be photographed; an image processing device configured to process said image captured by said image inputting device; a code setting device configured to set a kind of said printed code to be automatically recognized; ***a guide displaying device configured to display a guide for recognizing the printed code in accordance with a content on the kind of said printed code to be automatically recognized set by said code setting device***; a recognizing device configured to automatically recognize the printed code included in said image; a displaying device configured to display a result of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; a recording device configured to record data of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; and a changing

device configured to change photographing modes automatically according to said guide displayed by said guide displaying device.

Regarding **claim 8**, the relevant prior art fails to disclose or reasonably suggest a digital camera apparatus, comprising an image inputting device configured to capture an image to be photographed; an image processing device configured to process said image captured by said image inputting device; a recognizing device configured to automatically recognize a printed code included in said image; a displaying device configured to display a result of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; a recording device configured to record data of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by said recognizing device; and ***an information searching device configured to define an information file in which information corresponding to said printed code is included therein to at least one of an external recording medium attached to the digital camera apparatus and an internal memory beforehand, and configured to search said information corresponding to said printed code when said printed code is recognized; and an information adding device configured to convert said printed code to information corresponding to said printed code and add the information to the image.***

Regarding **claims 11-24**, independent claim 11 teaches a digital camera apparatus, comprising an image inputting device configured to capture an image, the

image inputting device including a shutter release button having two positions for a first release and a second release; an image processing device configured to process the image captured by the image inputting device, and configured to output the image; **a controller configured to automatically recognize a printed code included in the processed image and output a result of the recognition of the printed code in response to the first release, and configured to determine the image captured by the image inputting device and record the determined image and the printed code recognized by the first release in response to the second release;** a displaying device configured to display the image outputted from the image processing device, and configured to display the result of the recognition of the printed code outputted from the controller; and a recording device configured to record the determined image captured by the image inputting device and data of the recognition of the printed code automatically recognized by the controller, which is neither taught or an obvious variation of the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wanda M. Negrón whose telephone number is (571)

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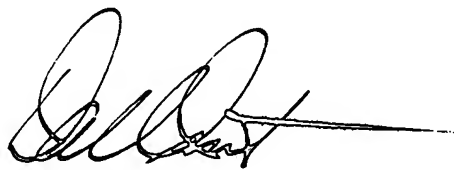
270-1129. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:30 am - 4:00 pm
alternate Fri off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Wanda M. Negrón/

Examiner, Art Unit 2622
January 10, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Ometz', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER